



## MEETING Notes

May 27, 2014

### I. Welcome and Introductions

The May 27, 2014, meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council was held at the Iowa Department of Education and various ICN sites. The following members were present at the meeting: **Michael Healy**, School Administrators of Iowa; **Kent Johnson**, State Board of Regents; **Ellen Kabat-Lensch**, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; **Sally Lindgren**, AEA Boards; **Gwen Nagel**, Iowa Department of Education; **Lane Plugge**, AEA Boards; **Randy Richardson**, Iowa State Education Association; **Terry Rinehart**, Iowa Public Television; **Kay Runge**, Iowa Department of Education.

**Ken Colwell**, Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; **Mary Gannon**, Iowa Association of School Boards; **Tom Kruse**, Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; **Tamara Kuhn**, Iowa State Education Association; **Jan Lund**, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees; **Carol Montz**, School Administrators of Iowa; **Chet Rzonca**, State Board of Regents; and **Mary Wieser**, Iowa Department of Education were absent.

The following guests were also present at the meeting: **Phil Groner**, **Jontell Harris**, ICN; **Ryan Wise**, DE.

### II. Updates

#### II.1 ICN Update

Phil Groner Manager of Business Services for the ICN provided an update.

Executive Director Dave Lindgren has resigned. Rick Lumbard has been appointed as the acting director of the Iowa Communications Network by the Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission. The search for a new director will likely be a six to eight month process.

The ICN is in the midst of evaluating bids received in response to the RFP to provide maintenance services. The current contract with Windstream will end December 31, 2014. The ICN hopes to have a decision made by the beginning of the fiscal year.

The ICN has received 60 responses for Part III upgrades. The current bandwidth requirements of schools exceed the current DS3 capacity. The ICN hopes to complete the upgrades prior to the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year.

Discussion followed.

## II.2 ICN Legislative Update

Jontell Harris, Executive Liaison for the ICN, provided an update.

**SF2347** - Education Appropriations – Includes an appropriation for \$992,913 to the Department of Education to provide technical assistance for network classrooms, planning and trouble shooting for Local Area Networks (LAN), scheduling of video sites, and other related support activities. SF 2347 Passed the Senate and House on April 23 and was sent to the Governor on May 2. The bill has not been signed into law.

**SF2349** - Infrastructure Appropriations – Includes the following appropriations:

- \$2.7 million to the Department of Education for Part III lease payments.
- \$2.2 million to the ITTC for equipment replacement.
- The bill allows the Commission to enter into contracts in excess of the contract limitation amount established in section 8D of the [Code of Iowa](#) .
- SF 2349 passed the House and Senate on April 30 and sent to the Governor on May 2. The bill not been signed into law.

**HF2288** - Concerned various reporting and other time or purchasing requirements applicable to State agencies. The bill eliminated the ICN Savings Report. HF 2288 passed the House on March 6 and the Senate on March 18. The bill was signed into law by Governor Branstad on March 26.

## II.3. Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission (ITTC) Update

Jontell Harris, Executive Liaison for the ICN, provided an update.

Dr. Robert Hardman, who served on the Commission for 12 years, elected not to apply for re-appointment to the Commission. Dr. Hardman's term expired on April 30, 2014. Dr. Hardman served on the executive planning committee for the development of the ICN and delivered many national and international workshops and presentations on the use of educational technology and telecommunications.

Governor Branstad appointed Kelly Dolan-Lange of Independence, Iowa to replace Dr. Hardman as a member of the Commission. Her term began on May 1, 2014 and will expire in 2020.

Kelly Dolan-Lange's Commission appointment was confirmed by the Senate on April 1, 2014.

## II.4 Broadband 2.0 update

Phil Groner, Manager of Business Services for the ICN provided an update.

The Governor initiated the Connect Every Iowan program last year and appointed a STEM broadband advisory committee. This committee worked through the fall and made recommendations to Governor's office. The bill was not passed by the legislature, but there is an expectation that broadband will be a subject again next session.

Discussion followed.

### **III. Issues**

#### **III.1. RTC Funding Plan and Guidelines for FY 2015**

There was a meeting two weeks ago to review the budget application for RTCs from last year to this year and to review of SF 2347, which has not yet been officially signed by the Governor. Funding is set at same level as last year, the allocation has not changed. There may be a need to review the method for allocating funds in the future. The form will remain the same, and the date will also remain the same. September 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to file the budget and accountability forms, though these can be submitted earlier. If budgets and accountability forms are submitted prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> they could go to the ITTC for approval in late August, or early September.

#### **III.2. Review of RTC Plans**

Will need to seek volunteers to review plans.

#### **III.3. Recommended Funding Request for RTC Support for FY 2016**

The recommendation for this year was for the funding allocation to remain at the same level as FY14, \$992,913. This is currently awaiting the Governor's signature.

#### **MOTION 1 --**

Randy Richardson moved that the ETC recommended that the FY16 RTC funding allocation remain at the FY14 level of \$992,913. Ellen Kabat-Lensch seconded.

Ayes – 9, Nays – 0, Not Voting – 0, Absent – 8 Motion approved unanimously. This recommendation will be drafted and put forward.

#### **III.4. Recommendation to the ITTC for Educational Video Rates for FY 2016**

#### **MOTION 2 --**

Kay Runge moved to recommend to the ITTC that ICN educational video rates for FY2016 remain at the current FY15 levels. Terry Rinehart seconded.

Ayes—9, Nays—0, Not Voting—0, Absent—8. Motion approved unanimously.

#### **III.5. Approval of 2015 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines**

**MOTION 3 --**

Gwen Nagel moved to approve the 2015 ICN Educational Video Scheduling Deadlines as submitted. Michael Healy seconded.

Ayes—9, Nays—0, Not Voting—0, Absent—8. Motion approved unanimously.

**IV. Miscellaneous****IV.1. Hand-off to New ETC Chair**

Sally Lindgren handed off the meeting to Ellen Kabat-Lensch, ETC chair for 2014-2015. Ellen and the other members thanked Sally for her leadership this past year.

**IV.2. Election of ETC Chair-Elect****MOTION 4 --**

Kay Runge nominated Mary Gannon to be the Chair-elect for 2014-2015. Michael Healy seconded.

Ayes—9, Nays—0, Not Voting—0, Absent—8. Motion approved unanimously.

**IV.3. New Chair to Select ETC Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee members for June 2014-June 2015 are:

Sally Lindgren (AEA Boards) *Past-chair*  
 Ellen Kabat-Lensch (IACCT) *Chair*  
 Mary Gannon (IASB) *Chair-elect*  
 Kay Runge (DE/Lib)  
 Terry Rinehart (IPTV)

Ellen Kabat-Lensch will make phone calls to see if others are interested in serving on Executive Committee.

**V. 4. Updates**

The RTC received an email from Lori Larson with a reminder that the final RTC annual report is due July 31<sup>st</sup>. The final annual reports for funding year 2014 will go to Lori Larson. For funding year 2015 the reports will go to Angi Hillers (DE).

Ryan Wise, Deputy Director at the Department of Education provided an update. Debbie Wineland has retired from IPTV. The DE is taking over the responsibilities for the ETC/RTC oversight from both the IPTV role and that of the ICN. Moving forward, Angi Hillers (DE - [angi.hillers@iowa.gov](mailto:angi.hillers@iowa.gov)) will be the point of contact.

**V. Adjournment**

Sally Lindgren moved to adjourn the May 27, 2014 meeting of the Education Telecommunications Council at 11:04 a.m. Gwen Nagel seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The next scheduled meeting of the ETC is Friday, October 10, 2014 at the Iowa Department of Education.